EXHIBIT 87



OUTSIDE COUNSEL'S EYES ONLY

Transcript of Shigeki Shimomura

Date: June 16, 2020

Case: VLSI Technology LLC -v- Intel Corporation

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Transcript of Shigeki Shimomura Conducted on June 16, 2020

1 (1 to 4)

Conducted on June 16, 2020				
	1		3	
1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	1	APPEARANCES	
2	FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS	2	ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFF VLSI TECHNOLOGY LLC:	
3	AUSTIN DIVISION	3	CHARLOTTE J. WEN, ESQUIRE	
4		4	DOMINIK SLUSARCZYK, ESQUIRE	
5	VLSI TECHNOLOGY LLC, : Civil Action No.:	5	IRELL & MANELLA LLP	
6	Plaintiff, : 1:19-CV-977-ADA	6	1800 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 900	
7	v. :	7	Los Angeles, California 90067	
8	INTEL CORPORATION, :	8	(310) 277-1010	
9	Defendant. :	9		
10	x	10	ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT INTEL CORPORATION and	
11	OUTSIDE COUNSEL'S EYES ONLY	11 1	DEPONENT:	
12	VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF SHIGEKI SHIMOMURA	12	JAMES MICHAEL LYONS, ESQUIRE	
13	CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY	13	S. CALVIN WALDEN, ESQUIRE	
14	Tuesday, June 16, 2020	14	JONATHAN A. COX, ESQUIRE	
15	9:00 a.m. PST	15	TAEG SANG CHO, ESQUIRE	
16		16	WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR, LLP	
17		17	60 State Street	
18		18	Boston, Massachusetts 02109	
19		19	(617) 526-6000	
20		20		
21		21		
22		22		
23	Job No.: 303262	23		
24	Pages: 1 - 231	24		
25	Reported By: Charlotte Lacey, RPR, CSR No. 14224	25		
	2		4	
1	VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF SHIGEKI SHIMOMURA,	1	APPEARANCES CONTINUED	
2	CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.	2 (ON BEHALF OF DEPONENT:	
3		3	BRIAN L. FERRALL, ESQUIRE	
4		4	KEKER, VAN NEST & PETERS, LLP	
5		5	633 Battery Street,	
6	Pursuant to notice, before Charlotte Lacey,	6	San Francisco, California 94111	
7	Certified Shorthand Reporter, in and for the State of	7	(415) 391-5400	
8	California.	8	()	
9			ALSO PRESENT:	
10		10	Jillian Barricelli, Videographer	
11		11	Kevin Gogarty, AV Technician	
12		12	Action Sogarcy, At reconstruin	
13		13		
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39 (153 to 156)

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1 as the process manufacturability and considerable --

- 2 expected the layout impact using this type of
- 3 implementation, which means the die size and the --
- 4 the -- possibly power too.
- Q Okay. And was the other patent that you reviewed the 7,523,373 patent?
- 7 A Yes, I read through last night.
- 8 Q How long did you spend reading the
- 9 '373 patent?
- 10 A I am not good at reading in English, so it
- 11 took quite some time. But it's about -- it took about
- 12 over an hour and a half because my issue is so much --
- 13 how I say it? -- different implementations. So I, you
- 14 know -- in order to fully understand, you know, the
- 15 paragraphs and the phrases, it -- it takes time. So --
- 16 but it took that much time, roughly.
- 17 Q Sure. So before last night, had you ever
- 18 reviewed the '373 patent?
- 19 A '373... Yeah. We had a chat -- a discussion 20 session on the --
- 21 MR. LYONS: Mr. Shimomura, just remind you
- 22 that that was a yes-or-no question, and I'd ask that
- 23 you -- any substance of any conversations you had with
- 24 attorneys, that you don't disclose those.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Oh. Okay. Then...
 - A I don't think there's anything here you can...
- yeah, I just read it after, you know, the mention the
- 3 lawyer passed down, you know, through the e-mail. But
- 4 that's about it.
- 5 Q Okay. And did you -- did you have any
- 6 opinions about whether Intel's products practice the
- 7 '373 patent?
- 8 A I don't think so. Based on what there is
- 9 describing and what how they are determining the
- 10 operation and switching the voltage regulators, it
- 11 doesn't seems like Broadwell product is doing the same
- 12 approach.
- 13 Q Why do you think that Broadwell isn't doing
- 14 the same approach as what's disclosed in the
- 15 '373 patent?
- 16 A Well yeah. This patent is actually
- 17 registering all the voltage level of the of the
- 18 various minimum operation voltage, so-called what is
- 19 that called? VCC-min well, minimum minimum read
- 20 voltage or minimum what is that called? The state –
- 21 the patent was describing as the first minimum voltage,
- 22 second minimum voltage, you know, for the read and write
- 23 separately, and that voltage level is recorded or stored
- 24 into the some storage element, either volatile or
- 25 non-volatile memory, and then based on that voltage

- 1 level is checked against the the currently
- 2 operation operation voltage, and if that is lower
- 3 to than that registered voltage value, then it
- 4 will switch the power supply.
- 5 But we are, in Broadwell, using up any voltage
- to use the both VCCALT as well as the VCCCORE. So it's
- 7 not just based on one-time voltage difference control to
- switch over. It's more like constant.
- And also, if you do take this approach, you
- 10 have to actually characterize all -- and test all the
- 11 bit cells operation voltage as to how low it's going to
- 12 go, and it could cost tremendous amount of testing and
- 13 the characterization time and cost as the outcome to
- 14 characterize these.
- 15 And then storing that into the some memory
- 16 element, that seems to be quite difficult and costly
- 17 to from my my understanding in terms of the
- 18 high-volume product you know, the production
- 19 standpoint, it would be very costly, I would think.
- We had a similar kind of discussion for
- 21 different topic to do characterize one die each die
- 22 to program certain tunabilities. But that was --
- 23 everyone was saying everyone was kind of opposed to
- 24 that idea because that is too much cost to test and
- 25 characterize. So that kind of approach was avoided from

154 1 our -- you know, the mindset. So at least myself and

1 11 T' 1 T CONTOUR ALL AL

- 2 probably Jim and Jeff Miller thinks the same way.
- Q So other than the reasons you just gave, are there any other reasons why you think that Intel's
- 4 there any other reasons why you think th
- 5 products do not use the '373 patent?
- A Other reasons?
- 7 MR. LYONS: Objection; calls for a legal
- 8 conclusion.
- 9 A Can I think of anything? Implementation-wise,
- 10 probably it's not difficult to implement. It's probably
- 11 relatively easier, but the making it product and
- 12 characterizing it, you know, each part would be -- yeah,
- 13 that -- again, the first opinion I just provided is
- 14 probably the one major issue to avoid that type of
- 15 approach. That's my opinion.
- 16 Maybe -- yeah. I think from the -- as memory
- 17 design -- memory array designing, that's what I think --
- 18 at least I should be thinking first. Yeah. Because
- 19 that -- the memory array usually, you know, includes,
- 20 like, thousands of millions of the bit cell, and we have
- 21 to take care of all of the bits not to getting out of
- 22 the operation -- how you say? -- operational -- how you
- 23 say? -- in order to make sure all the bits have to be
- 24 operational across the range of the voltage, we cannot
- 25 really characterize all of them.

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40 (157 to 160)

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You know, especially, you know, just LLC data

2 array itself, it has the 8 megabyte, you know, that

means 8 millions or more of the memory cells, and every

single cell have to be functional across the range of

the voltage, and also each wafer may be producing - how

many? - like, close to thousand, let's say, of the

dies, and then every week or every month, there is

millions of, you know, parts coming into the fab, and in

order to characterize every single one of them, it's -

10 it would just take too much cost. That's my opinion.

Q Okay. Do you have any opinion about whether

12 the '373 patent is valid?

A Oh, it is valid, but from my view, I don't

14 know if Intel is - will try to use this approach.

Q Okay. And do you have any opinion about

16 whether the '485 patent is valid?

17 MR. LYONS: Objection; calls for a legal

18 conclusion.

A Yeah. Well, both of them are valid. Yeah. I

20 see the — the — the value of the patent.

21 But from my view, and some of my old

22 colleagues, and my senior, including Jim Conary, Jeff

23 Miller, even Eric Karl, I don't think they will choose

24 that way.

25 Yeah, one other example maybe I could mention

4 That is tunability, but that can be achieved by the

2 component. So they are disconnecting the cells' power

supply net out of the -- you know, charging the node.

Intel as a high-volume product manufacturing

company, I don't think we'd take that approach. We'd

rather prefer to use programmable tunability. That's

1 considered as the option to modulate the capacitance

among the charge share node. And by increasing or

decreasing the number of disconnect location from the -

this one is from the row numbers, then you can modulate

the capacitance among the charge share. But that would

require the actual layout changes, and that is not

something we'd like to do.

Q I see. So your opinion is based on one of the 8

figures. It sounds like figure number 2?

10 MR. LYONS: Objection; misstates testimony.

A Yeah, figure number 2. 11

12 Q Okay. And do you have any legal training?

A Any – any – any what training? 13

Q Let me say that again. Do you have any legal 14

15 training?

A Legal training? You mean at inside - when I 16

17 was in Intel?

18 Q I'm asking if you attended law school.

19 No, me. No, no, no. I'm not good at any of

20 this.

21 Q And have you studied patent law?

22 A Excuse me?

23 Q Have you studied patent law?

A Have I - have I sell or - I don't quite 24

25 understand that question.

158

1 is using -- yeah, the option to modulate the capacitance Q Sorry. I'm asking if you've ever studied, 1

like, the law of patents.

A No.

4 Q All right. And you've never worked at a law

firm; is that right?

A No, never.

Q Your training has been as an engineer; is that

8 correct?

9 A That is correct.

10 Q And you're not familiar with the legal

11 standards for patent infringement; is that correct?

A Patents standard, probably I am not -- not an

13 expert at least, if I know anything.

Q And you're probably not familiar with the

15 legal standards for claim construction; is that correct?

16 A That is correct.

17 Q And you're also not familiar with the legal

18 standards for validity; is that correct?

A Could -- could you say that question again.

20 Q Yeah. And you're not also familiar with the

21 legal standards for patent validity; is that correct?

22 A That is correct.

23 Q All right. And these opinions that you have

24 about the '485 and '373 patent, did you discuss those

25 with your attorneys?

9 one of the major -- one of the reasons not to use this 10 type of approach, I would think.

Q So your understanding of how the '485 patent 12 disclosed tunable capacitance --

manufacturing mask divisions.

A Yes. I --

14 Q -- what is that based on?

A Excuse me? 15

Q Sorry. So you said that -- I'm just

17 wondering, what part of the '485 patent were you looking

18 at when you came to that conclusion? A Very --

20 MR. LYONS: Objection; vague.

A Very first chart. There is a X mark on the

22 bit cell 30.

23 O And --

24 A Yeah. So that X correspond to -- my

25 understanding, according to the description, it is

Transcript of Shigeki Shimomura

52 (205 to 208)

Conducted on June 16, 2020 205 207 1 close to thousand, I heard, but I don't absolutely Q At a high level, what do you understand the remember or know the exact number. '485 patent to describe? Q And what was the general responsibility of the 3 MS. WEN: Objection; calls for expert CCDO group? testimony and calls for legal conclusions. A CCDO group was delivering the next generation, A So it has a charge share capacitor the CPU microprocessor for desktop and the laptop for construction using the memory cell. And also the generations, and that was the charter. Yeah. program is using -- is used -- used with the Q And what was your role within the CCDO group? connectivity programming on the bit cell and charge A I was primarily working on the SRAM array -share capacitor -- capacitance node. So that is the 10 memory array designs and mainly for MLC. But also, I 10 primary circuit component as a write assist on top of 11 was involved in some of the design methodology 11 the charge share transfer -- charge transfer transistor. 12 definition and also some of the MLC cache architecture 12 Yeah. 13 definition work. At the same time, I was also involved 13 Q Does the charge share write assist feature in 14 in some of the LLC organization development. 14 Intel's Broadwell products use the technique in the Q In your work at Intel, did you work on any 15 '485 patent? 16 write assist features that were ultimately incorporated MS. WEN: Objection; calls for expert 16 17 into chips that Intel sold? 17 conclusions, calls for legal conclusions -- I'm sorry --A Write assist circuit, yes. Yes, write assist 18 calls for expert testimony, leading. A In my mind, I don't think we did -- it did. 19 circuit was one of them. Q And did you work on any particular write 20 Q How does the charge share write assist feature 21 assist circuit? 21 in Broadwell differ from what's in the -- what the 2.2. MS. WEN: Objection; form. 22 '485 patent describes? A I believe the -- I worked on the two write 23 MS. WEN: Objection; calls for expert 24 assists, so that one is a TVC, and the other one is a 24 testimony, calls for a legal conclusion, is vague and 25 charge share write assist, two of them as a -- you know, 25 ambiguous, leading. 206 208 which became a product. A So there is a two major points, A, charge Q And which Intel processors included the charge share capacitor component, the patent, the memory cell, share write assist? but the Broadwell charge share write assist used NMOS. A Only the Broadwell was the only product, I I don't remember which NMOS transistor. But MOS believe, as I understand. capacitor has the capacitance component. So that part Q Do you understand that VLSI has accused is different. Intel's processors of infringing the '485 patent in this And the second part - second point is case? programability is connecting or disconnecting the memory MS. WEN: Objection; leading. cell within a row or column for the charge share A My understanding of the patent, I don't think 10 capacitor node in the patent, but Broadwell uses -11 we did. 11 programmable – programmable variable capacitance node Q All right. And specifically, do you 12 using a MOS transistor as a capacitor. So that 13 understand that VLSI has accused the charge share write 13 programmability option will be different. Q In your view, would the technology described 14 assist feature of infringing the '485 patent in this 15 case? 15 in the '485 patent provide any benefit to Intel's 16 A Yes. 16 products? 17 MS. WEN: Objection; leading. 17 MS. WEN: Objection; calls for expert 18 testimony, calls for a legal conclusion, vague and 18 A Yes. Q Had you ever heard of the '485 patent during 19 ambiguous, leading. 19 20 the time you worked on the Broadwell project? 20 A In my mind, probably, Intel may not be - at A No, I never even thought there was a patent 21 least a CPU development team in Oregon may have not used 22 filed already back then. 22 it if we knew there was a - such technique.

23

24

Q Why?

A - as I mentioned earlier, the

25 capacitance - effectiveness of the capacitance is one

Q So you had -- had you ever heard of the

24 '485 patent prior to this litigation?

25

A No.

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57 (225 to 228)

227 relate to any minimum operating voltages of the SRAM in memory? the Broadwell MLC? 2 MS. WEN: Same objections. 3 MS. WEN: Same objections. 3 4 A I don't think so. Q Mr. Shimomura, to summarize, does Intel use Q So the power gate does not relate to any the '373 patent in the Broadwell mid-level cache? operate -- any minimum operating voltages of the SRAM in MS. WEN: Same objections. the Broadwell mid-level cache? A In my mind, I don't think we did. 8 MS. WEN: Same objections. Q Did you perform any formal legal analysis to assess the validity of the '373 patent? A No. 10 Q Do you understand that VLSI has accused the 10 A No. 11 mid-level cache of Intel's Broadwell processors of MS. WEN: Same objection. 11 12 accusing the '373 patent in this case? 12 MR. LYONS: All right. At this time, we have 13 MS. WEN: Objection; leading, vague. 13 no further -- I have no further questions. Thank you, 14 A It sounded like -- sounds right, but -- yeah. 14 Mr. Shimomura. Q You were asked some questions early about your THE WITNESS: Thank you. 15 15 16 understanding of the '373 patent. Do you remember those **FURTHER EXAMINATION** 16 17 questions? 17 BY MS. WEN: 18 A Yes, there were some. Yeah. 18 Q I just have a few. Apologies. Q Had you heard of the '373 patent when you were 19 Is it your opinion that an MLC or NMOS 20 involved in the Broadwell project? 20 capacitors are not dummy cells? 21 A No. 21 MR. LYONS: Objection; vague, lack of Q Had you ever heard of the '373 patent before 22 foundation, calls for speculation. 23 this litigation? A No, not -- not as I understand. Not as my 24 A No. 24 knowledge. 25 MS. WEN: Objection; leading. 25 Q Why? 226 228 Q Does the mid-level cache in Intel's Broadwell A Well, dummy cell is - we usually call it some 1 processors use the idea described in the '373 patent? kind of replicated structures, and, you know, those MS. WEN: Objection; calls for expert cells are supposed to be used at the edge of the regular testimony, calls for a legal conclusion, vague and replicate - repeated - repeated VR structures. And ambiguous, leading. the dummy - so that's how we refer as - refer to as a A No. I don't think so. dummy cell, such as the edge cell in the SRAM arrays or Q How is the mid-level cache in Intel Broadwell analog device or analog transistor groups, N cell at the processors different from what is described in the 40 structures edge. '373 patent? And this Broadwell MLCs, there is a charge 10 MS. WEN: Same objections. 10 share capacitors are not, you know, even including those A How different? We are not using the voltage 11 kind of dummy structures at all. So those MOS capacitor 12 values based on the characterization data. That's one 12 component is solely used as the capacitor, not even 13 major difference. 13 considered as a dummy. So it is a valid active Q So what causes the Broadwell mid-level cache 14 transistor used for - as a circuit component. 15 to switch from one voltage supply to another? 15 Q I see. And what is a dummy transistor? MS. WEN: Same objections. 16 16 A Dummy -17 A We design the -- based on the P-state, which 17 MR. LYONS: Objection. 18 is defined in a different scheme, which I don't exactly A Dummy transistor is considered as the 19 know the details of it, based on that power -- P-state 19 transistor structure fabrication, but those transistors 20 transition voltage, as well as the power gate to LVR 20 are not actively used as a circuit component. 21 switching would be appropriately switched or operated 21 Q And, yes or no, did you discuss your -- this 22 accordingly. 22 definition of a dummy transistor with Intel's counsel? 23 Q In the Broadwell mid-level cache, is there any 24 comparison of a memory voltage to a minimum operating 24 Q And do you agree that Intel's charge share

25 capacitor is adjustable?

25 voltage to determine which voltage to provide to the

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58 (229 to 232)

	,
1 MR. LYONS: Objection; vague.	231 1 CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER
2 A Yes.	2
3 Q Do you agree that Intel's charge share	I, Charlotte Lacey, the officer before whom the
4 capacitor is programmable?	4 foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby certify that
5 MR. LYONS: Objection; vague, outside the	5 the foregoing transcript is a true and correct record of
_	
	7 stenographically and thereafter reduced to typewriting
8 Q And thank you.	8 under my direction; that reading and signing was not
9 When you say that charge share write assist	9 requested; and that I am neither counsel for, related
10 was commonly accepted among engineers, what time frame	10 to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and
11 were you referring to?	11 have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its
12 A Well, charge share effect is very widely known	12 outcome.
13 already. It's yeah. Any of the circuit designer	13
14 would know it as a basic knowledge of the circuit on	14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my
15 so, yeah, I think that that's a commonly known	15 hand this 30th of June, 2020.
16 understanding	16
17 Q Are you referring sorry.	17
18 A Sorry.	18
19 I'm I'm not even you know, I don't even	Charlotte Lacey, RPR, CSR #14224
20 think that since what time, you know, it became widely	20
21 known or commonly known. It's the effect of circuit	21
22 techniques or not really a circuit technique. It's	22
23 more like one of the effect during a various type of	23
24 circuit operation.	24
25 Q Okay. So you're referring to the physics	25
230	
1 concept of charge sharing rather than a specific write	
2 assist?	
A That is correct.	
MR. LYONS: Objection; misstates testimony.	
5 MS. WEN: That's all I have. Thank you,	
6 Mr. Shimomura.	
7 MR. LYONS: Thank you. I think we're all set.	
8 No further questions here.	
9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: All right. Everyone stand	
10 by, please.	
11 This is the end of the remote video deposition	
12 of Shigeki Shimomura. We are going off the record at	
13 5:16 p.m.	
(The deposition concluded at 5:16 p.m. PST)	
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